

# **Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee**

**Tuesday, March 17, 2015**

**Archie R. Cole Middle School Library**

**100 Cedar Avenue**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

**6:00 p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Osborne made a motion to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-4 and §42-46-5 (a) (3) Report on School Security/Safety, (a) (2) Litigation update: Lamendola v. Town of EG, et al. Dr. Sun seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.**

**Those in attendance were Ms. Carolyn Mark, Chair; Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair (arrived at 6:17 p.m.); Mr. Clark Smith; Mr. David Osborne; Dr. Yan Sun, and Mr. Michael Fain (arrived at 6:20 p.m.). Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters was absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Gail Wilcox, Director of Administration; and Mr. Brad Wilson, Director of Student Services were also in attendance.**

## **7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting**

### **I. Call to Order**

**Ms. Mark called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.**

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

### **III. Public Comments**

**There were no public comments.**

### **IV. Superintendent's Report**

**The EGHS Academic Decathlon Team competed over the weekend and took third place in the state. Students' will be recognized at the next School Committee meeting. PARCC testing is off to a good start. About nineteen students will not participate in testing. Principals and teachers were thanked for their work in preparing for PARCC.**

**The boys' hockey team is in the playoffs and spring sports will start this week.**

**Mrs. Tricia Colgan discussed the post prom event planned for May 22, 2015. AfterEGProm was developed based on the event Barrington held last year. Fundraising efforts have reached \$11,000 with a goal of \$15,000. Mrs. Colgan discussed various events that will take place along with raffles. There is a need for volunteers to staff the event. Dr. Mercurio and Mr. Wilmarth were thanked for their support and assistance.**

### **V. School Committee Concerns**

**There were no concerns.**

### **VI. Action Items**

#### **a. Appointment**

**1. Elizabeth Aulisio-Co-Leader, Special Education Advisory Committee**

**On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Mr. Fain, the Committee voted 6-0**

to approve the appointment.

## **VII. Presentation: Early Childhood-Bright Stars**

Mr. Wilson, RIDE staff members, and special education staff presented information on the Bright Stars application process. Ms. Jackie DiLorenzo discussed the current preschool staff-child ratio and the standards connected to Bright Star ratings. Ms. Michelle Palermo, of RIDE, discussed the wave of grants available noting programs may qualify for \$30,000 in grants (twice per year) once a Star rating has been awarded. The differences between Star ratings were explained. Ms. DiLorenzo said the district is applying for a three Star rating.

## **VIII. Discussion**

### **a. Budget FY2016**

The proposed FY2016 revenue was revised using the Governor's recommended state aid. The high cost special education funding was revised (increased), which decreases the local revenue to 2.66% and 3.07% with the all-day K equity model. Relief may also be seen in private out-of-district transportation costs and textbooks.

### **b. Strategic Planning**

A list of confirmed members will be provided at the next meeting, along with clarification of the process. A Strategic Planning Committee meeting has been scheduled for April 2, 2015.

## **IX. Advisory/Subcommittee Updates**

### **a. Policy Committee**

The committee met on March 12th to draft a committee Charge, work on revisions to policies #9305 (name buildings), #1140, (ad

hoc/advisory committees) and #5130 (professional code of conduct).

**b. Health and Wellness Committee and Mental Health Subcommittee**

The Health and Wellness Committee met on March 12th to discuss goals, best practices, and end of year assessment. The Mental Health Subcommittee met on

March 3rd and heard a presentation from an Ad Hoc Start Time Committee member. Members are working on a data collection system for individual/program needs. The committee is looking into opportunities to highlight “Mental Health Awareness Month” in May. Dr. Gifford discussed communication between school nurse-teachers and pediatricians and asked if a standardized consent form could assist with communication. This will be explored with the district nurses and pediatrician.

**c. EGSEAC**

Ms. Patty Harwood thanked the Committee for the opportunity to have EGSEAC on the agenda. The last EGSEAC meeting took place on February 3rd. The committee discussed PARCC testing, FY2016 budget, data subcommittee, and special education curriculum used at each grade level. Upcoming meetings are April 15 at 9:30 a.m. and June 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

**X. Adjournment**

On a motion by Dr. Gifford, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO**  
**SECRETARY**